

POPULATING A DATABASE WITH INFERRED DEPENDENCIES**ABSTRACT**

- 5 Populating a database, including providing a database having a schema; inferring
from the schema dependencies among a fact table and related dimension tables; and
inserting, in accordance with the dependencies, rows of data into the fact table and
rows of data into the dimension tables. In typical embodiments, inferring
dependencies further comprises selecting from metadata describing a schema for the
10 database expressions of dependencies and inserting the expressions of dependencies
into a dependency list. In typical embodiments, wherein inserting rows of data further
comprises determining whether related dimension data exists for each foreign key in
each row of data inserted into the fact table and for each foreign key for which related
dimension data does not exist, inserting a row of dimension data into a dimension
15 table related to the fact table through the foreign key.